



The National Land and Water Information Service

www.agr.gc.ca/nlwis-snite

On-line agri-environmental data, information tools and expertise to support land-use decision making

What is the National Land and Water Information Service?

- An Internet-based service being developed by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and collaborators over four years, 2005-2009, to provide on-line access to geospatial agri-environmental information that will help Canadians make responsible land-use decisions
- It will integrate data on land use, soil, water, climate and biodiversity from different sources using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology and make them accessible through its Web portal at www.agr.gc.ca/nlwis-snite
- It will also provide expertise to help land-use decisions makers interpret the information

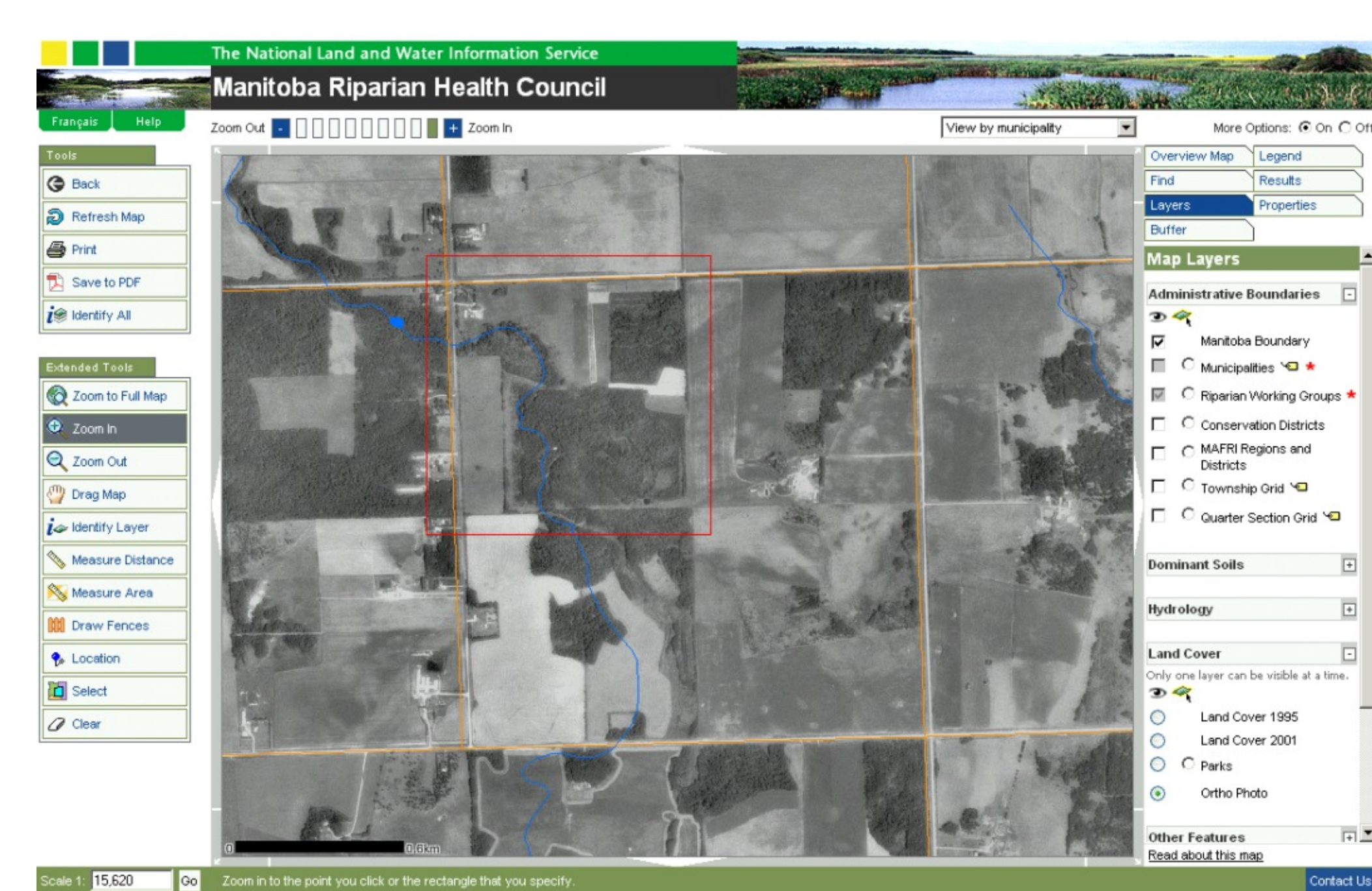
Who will benefit from this service?

- Land-use decision makers
 - governments, community groups, researchers, producers and industry
- The agricultural sector and all Canadians by
 - helping develop better agri-environmental policies
 - increasing public awareness of the relationship between agriculture and environment
 - improving land-use decision making and risk management

Who is involved in developing this service?

- Organizations that need data, information and/or applications on land use, soil, water, climate and biodiversity
 - federal government departments
 - provincial departments and agencies
 - municipal governments and authorities
 - producer and non-government organization delivery partners
 - industry delivery partners
 - academic institutions
- The National Land and Water Information Service is being developed on a foundation of partnerships and collaboration with clients and stakeholders
- AAFC is leading the project to implement this service

Service Components



- **Maps** – to access interactive maps that visualize information on land, soil, water, climate and biodiversity resources in Canada
- **Data** – to find and access geospatial data on land use, soil, water, climate, biodiversity, imagery and framework
- **Tools** – interactive Web mapping applications, worksheets and calculators designed to assist land-use decision makers
- **Expertise** – a network of AAFC professionals across Canada who build capacity for and facilitate land-use education and decision making on a local, regional and national scale

Service Levels

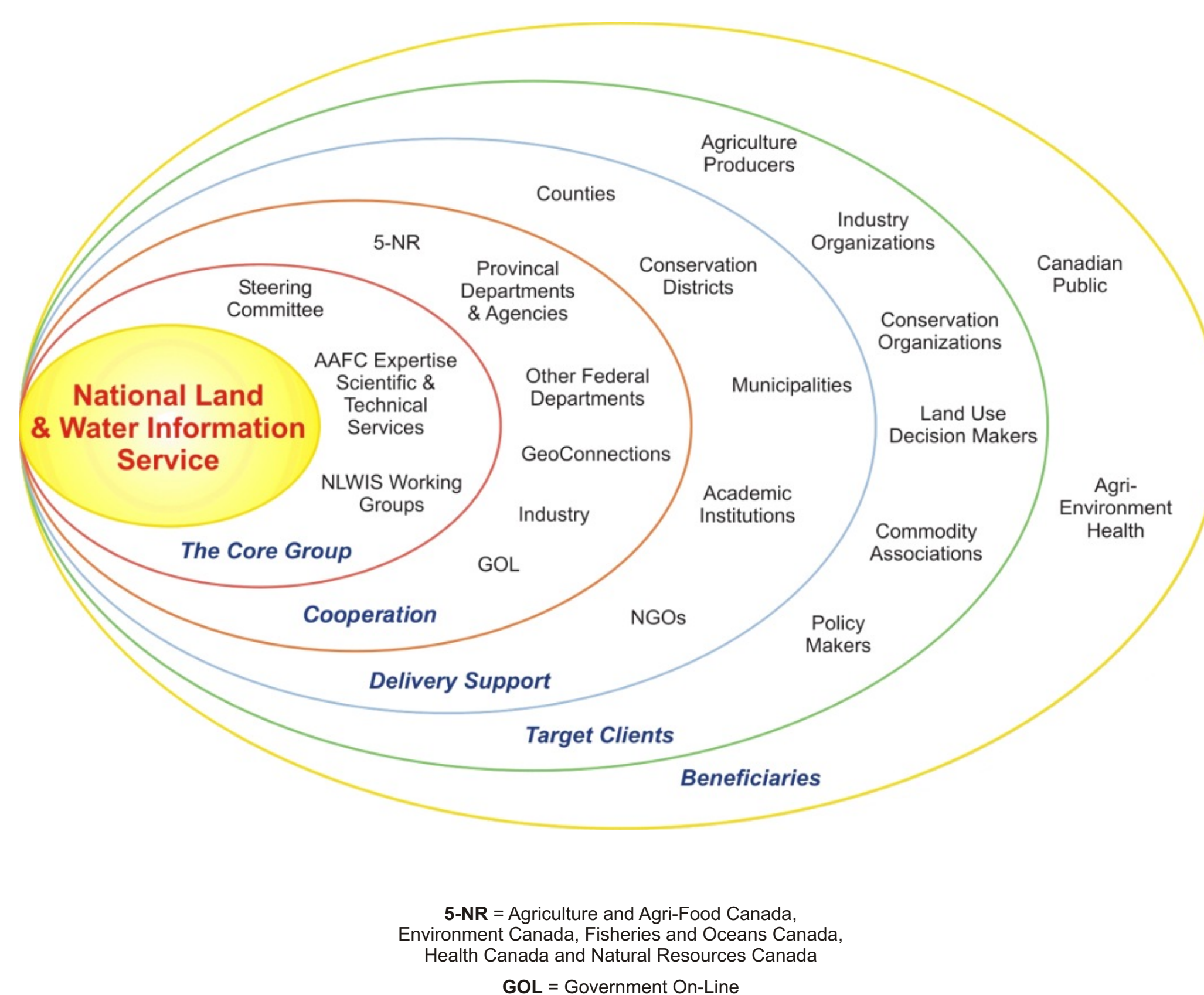
- **Self Service** – on-line help menu for general information, frequently asked questions and directions on how to search and navigate the Web site
- **Assisted Service** – assistance through tutorials or help via the Service Desk
- **Custom Service** – applications or interpretations created specially for a single customer, producer agency or a group

Project Status

- **Phase 1** concluded on March 31, 2006 with the debut of the new agri-environmental portal offering over 20 GIS applications, including the new Land Resource Viewer
- **Phase 2**, to be completed in 2007, is building the information technology platform for the new service
- **Phase 3**, to be completed in 2008, is creating customized GIS applications and improved Web-based services that are available on-line
- **Phase 4** will enrich access and linkages to data provided by other organizations, as well as release new products, and the National Land and Water Information Service will become fully operational in 2009

Why do we need this service?

- To meet the needs of clients and stakeholders who say
 - they do not have adequate access to information and decision tools to make the best land-use decisions
 - there is no national focus
- To support environmental programs under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF)
 - an agreement between federal, provincial and territorial governments
 - an agricultural policy to position Canada as the world leader in food safety, innovation and environmentally-responsible production
 - “... to make available to land-use decision makers, decision tools and environmental information to support and inform local and regional land-use planning and management...” (as per APF section 26.5)



French / Contact Us / Help / Search / Canada Site
AAFC Online / Links / Newsroom / What's New / Site Index

The National Land and Water Information Service

On-line agri-environmental data, information, tools and expertise to support land-use decision making

[Launch in a new window](#)

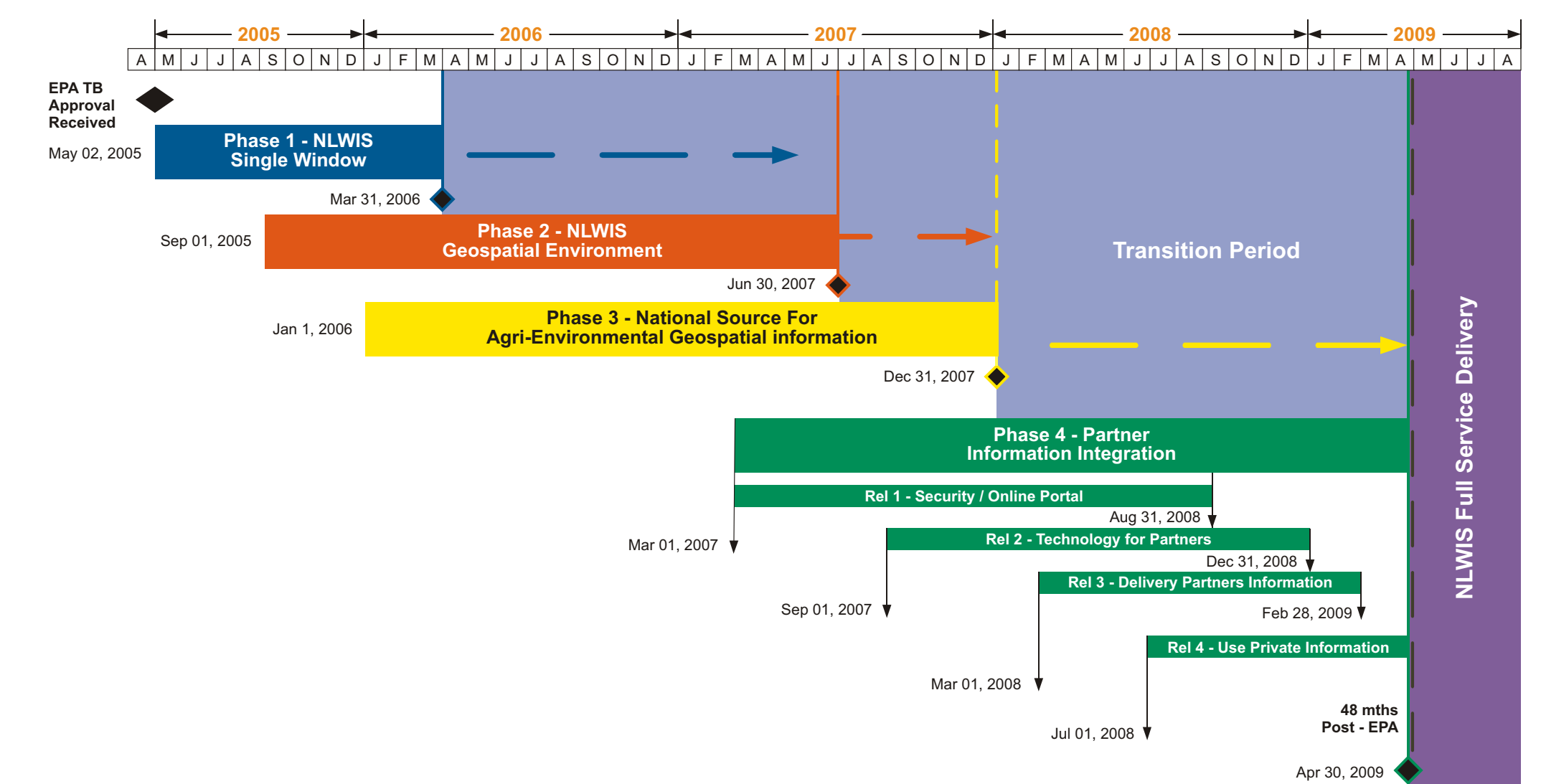
Maps
Access interactive maps to visualize information

Data
Find/access geospatial data

Expertise
Find Agri-environmental expertise

Tools
Tools to plan for a sustainable Agri-environment

[NLWIS Help](#)
[Feedback](#)
[Versions](#)
[Printer friendly](#)



Key Contacts

- **Project Leader**
Dr. Susan Till, Assistant Deputy Minister, tills@agr.gc.ca
- **Project Manager**
Stephen Walker, walkers@agr.gc.ca
- **Communications Manager**
Bev Kerr, kerrb@agr.gc.ca